

**Natural Resources Conservation Service**

**Application Ranking Summary**

**Sage-Grouse Initiative**

<b>Program:</b>	<b>Ranking Date:</b>	<b>Application Number:</b>
<b>Ranking Tool:</b> Sage-Grouse Initiative		<b>Applicant:</b>
<b>Final Ranking Score:</b>		<b>Address:</b>
<b>Planner:</b>		<b>Telephone:</b>
<b>Farm Location:</b>		

**National Priorities Addressed**

<b>Issue Questions</b>	<b>Responses</b>
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answering "Yes" to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the national priority category.	
1. a. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other national level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Quality - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
2. a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to animal feeding operations, or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. b. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a designated "impaired water body" (TMDL, 303d, etc.)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. c. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a "non-impaired water body"?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer implement conservation practices which:	
3. a. Decrease aquifer overdraft?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. b. Conserve water from irrigation system improvements and saved water will be available for other beneficial uses?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. c. Conserve water in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Clean Air: Treatment of air quality from agricultural sources - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
4. a. Meet on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. b. Reduce on-farm generated green house gases such as CO2 (Carbon Dioxide), CH4 (Methane), and N2O (Nitrous Oxide)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. c. Increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Soil Health: Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. b. Improve soil tilth, organic matter, structure, health, etc.?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Healthy Plant and Animal Communities Wildlife Habitat Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
6. a. Benefit on-farm habitat associated with threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern as identified in a State wildlife plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. b. Help retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
High Quality, Productive Soils, Healthy Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project assist the producer implement practices which:	

7. a. Help manage or control noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. b. Increase, or improve habitat to benefit pollinator or other targeted wildlife species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. c. Properly dispose of livestock carcasses?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. d. Are identified in an Integrated Pest Management plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. e. Are identified in a Nutrient Management plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. f. Apply principles of adaptive nutrient management?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Energy Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practices which:	
8. a. Reduce energy consumption on the agricultural operation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. b. Increase on-farm energy efficiency with practices and improvements identified in an approved energy audit equivalent to criteria required in Ag EMP (122,124)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. c. Assist in implementing energy conservation measures that also reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Business Lines - Conservation Implementation Additional Ranking Considerations - Will the proposed project result in:	
9. a. Implementation of all conservation practices scheduled in the contract on the CPA-1155 within three years of date of obligation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. b. Improvement of existing conservation practices or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is accepted?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. c. Implementation of practice(s) which will complete an existing conservation system or suite of practices?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

#### State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answering "Yes" to question 1 will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the stat priority category.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
14. Will the project remove invasive pinion/juniper from sagebrush ecological sites.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Habitat Priority Areas	
2. Is the application located primarily in a Priority 1 area?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Is the application located primarily in a Priority 2 area?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Is the application located primarily in a Priority 3 area?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Enrolled Acreage	
5. Is the application located primarily in the historic range of either the Greater or Gunnison Sage-Grouse species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. The Application enrolls 100% of all eligible sagebrush/grassland acres OR >1000ac total.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. The Application enrolls 60% to 99% of all eligible sagebrush/grassland acres OR 500 to 999ac total.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. The Application enrolls 40% to 59% of all eligible sagebrush/grassland acres OR 250-299ac total.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. The Applicant enrolls 20% to 39% of all eligible sagebrush/grassland acres OR 100 to 249 ac total.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Percent of Threats Identified That Are Treated	
10. Application addresses 100% of the identified threats. (Use SGI Threats Checklist)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
12. Application addresses 50% to 74% of the identified threats.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
13. Application addresses 25% to 49% of the identified threats.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
22. Application addresses 75% to 99% of the identified threats.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

#### Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answering	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

“Yes” to question 1 will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the local priority category.	
<b>A. What is the improvement score (after minus before score) on the applicable WHEG</b>	
2. >.5 and the after score is .5 or greater	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. .4-.5 and the after score is .5 or greater	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. .3-.39 and the after score is .5 or greater	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. .2-.29 and the after score is .5 or greater	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. .1-.19 and the after score is .5 or greater	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. .0-.1 and the after score is .5 or greater	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. 0 or the after score is .5	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
<b>B. What is the WHEG score</b>	
9. >.9	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
10. >.8to .9	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
11. >.7 to .8	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
12. >.6 to .7	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
13. >.5 to .6	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
<b>C. Threats Check List - % of threats Addressed</b>	
14. 80- 100%	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
15. 60- 79%	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
16. 40 - 59%	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
17. 20 - 39%	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
18. 1 - 19%	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
<b>Threats Checklist Points</b>	
19. >30	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
20. 25- 29	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
21. 20 - 24	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
22. 15 - 19	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
23. 5 - 9	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
25. 10 - 14	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

**Land Use:**

Resource Concerns	Practices
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**Ranking Score**

Efficiency:  Local Issues:  State Issues:  National Issues:  <b>Final Ranking Score:</b>
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This ranking report is for your information. It does not in any way guarantee funding. When funding becomes available, you will be notified if your application is selected for funding. Some changes to the application may be required before a final contract is awarded.

Notes:

<b>NRCS Representative:</b>	<b>Applicant Signature Not Required on this report for Contract Development unless required by State policy:</b>
<b>Signature Date:</b>	<b>Signature Date:</b>